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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2008

16 February 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

FROM: C J
Associate General Counsel

SUBJECT: Current Information and Administration Action
Concerning Klaus Barbie Matter

1. I called Bob Kimmett on the National Security Council staff to ask if he knew of plans to respond to recent allegations concerning U.S. intelligence links with Klaus Barbie. I informed him that we had been called by the State Legal Adviser's Office about the allegations last week (8 February). State said that the Army had confirmed that Army intelligence had used and aided Klaus Barbie after World War II. State wanted to know if the DCI would have a problem with admitting this in a statement that would come from the White House, in view of the Director's policy of not commenting on intelligence matters. (You will recall that we passed the problem to the DDO since we did not see any legal issue.)

2. Kimmett stated that the NSC staff (he and Ken deGraffenreid) had prepared press guidance on the matter (received 8 February, attached) which states:

- a. agencies have been asked to identify any information relevant to the matter;
- b. the general policy is not to comment on intelligence matters;
- c. we condemn any interference with bringing war criminals to justice; and
- d. the U.S. has been attempting to identify and bring war criminals to justice for years through the Office of Special Investigation, Department of Justice.

Kimmett then mentioned that Clark/Schultz/Weinberger were having breakfast on 17 February to discuss the matter further. From what Kimmett said, I received the distinct impression that

FOR COORDINATION WITH NSC

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the NSC staff was not inclined to be forthcoming in dealing with this problem. I mentioned we had been asked to look into the matter by the DCI and that my personal view was that we should be as forthcoming as possible. I pointed out that any U.S. involvement with Barbie was now over 30 years old and should not be permitted to be linked with this Administration. Kimmett said he thought that was a good point and that he would include it in a discussion paper he was preparing for Judge Clark. Kimmett confirmed in closing that he had not yet seen a "fact paper" on the matter.

3. I then called Don Koblitz in the Legal Advisor's Office at State. In summary, he told me the following:

- a. Schultz is meeting with Weinberger on this tomorrow at breakfast (with Judge Clark?);
- b. he has been told that DoD and the Intelligence Community are opposed to making a forthcoming statement that admits U.S. intelligence involvement with Barbie (he could not identify who was speaking for the IC);
- c. John Loftus is talking with CDS about the matter. Koblitz feels that it is important to make a positive, forthcoming statement before Loftus and CBS take the initiative and thereafter make it appear that what the Administration says was "forced" by press disclosures; and
- d. Loftus gave Koblitz the precise location in the State records center of documents about Barbie (Koblitz suspects that Loftus has copies).

With respect to the Barbie case itself:

- e. State has documents that show Barbie was employed by the Counterintelligence Corps, Army (CIC) and that the U.S. paid for his travel to South America;
- f. the CIC unit running Barbie was taking orders from the Counsel to the High Command, Germany, Robert Bowie (formerly D/NFAC under DCI Turner); and

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- g. the CIC unit was a cover for an Office of Policy Coordination operation.

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